



# Tapu'itea

*...ina ia manino le folauga.*

Tuesday  
July 25,  
2006

OFFICIAL AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT WEEKLY NEWSLETTER Vol. I, No. 18

## Governor Togiola concerned about federal cuts in NOAA funding

(UTULEI) – Governor Togiola Tulafono has expressed great concern of the U.S. House Appropriations Committee passage of the Fiscal Year 2007 funding for the Department of States, Justice and Commerce.

According to Governor Togiola, he was informed by the Coastal States Organization (CSO) of the House Appropriations Committee action and he is very concerned because it actually is a lot lower than funding for the previous year.

“Although it sounds great that the Committee has passed the new fiscal year funding for the Department of States, Justice and Commerce and related science programs, it actually is sad news because the bill provides \$3.39 billion for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), but is \$289 million less than the President’s request and about \$508 million below FY 2006 approved funding. This will affect our funding,” said Governor Togiola.

Governor Togiola has written to Congressman Faleomavaega Eni for his assistance in increasing the funding.

“With the exception of the coral reef program, funding for all the programs of interest to American Samoa will be significantly reduced. The CSO informed us that the House plans to consider this bill on the floor this week. I would appreciate you and your staff’s efforts to increase NOAA funding,” wrote Governor Togiola.

Governor Togiola said the impact of these cuts, if passed, will directly affect the programs and the services provided to the citizens of American Samoa, as well as NOAA’s ability to provide services to the states and territories.

“I have asked our Congressman for his support to maintain the funding level for NOAA’s FY ’07 budget level. The ASG agencies that receive funding from NOAA perform valuable services in protecting our environment and are vital to the citizens of American Samoa,” said Governor Togiola.

The U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee plans to consider their version of the NOAA appropriations this week also.

## Governor Togiola seeks help with Senator Inouye regarding cutbacks on NOAA funding

(UTULEI) – Governor Togiola Tulafono has requested the support of U.S. Senator Daniel K. Inouye (D-HI) to oppose drastic cuts to National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) programs as proposed in the House FY07 Appropriations bill.

“Your support for funding these programs is critical to maintaining the health of American Samoa’s coastal resources. The House Appropriations Committee has proposed cuts below the President’s budget to grants under the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA). I am asking that Coastal Zone Management (CZM) and NOAA’s National Estuarine Research Reserve System (NERRS) programs be funded at \$90 million and \$35 million respectively,” wrote Governor Togiola to Senator Inouye.

Governor Togiola also said cutting funding to any of these programs will impact American Samoa by reducing funding for CZM programs.

“As you know, all of American Samoa is defined as coastal zone in the CZMA, therefore, any reduction in funding for our CZM program will have devastating and potentially irreversible consequences,” said Governor Togiola.

The Governor also said for more than 25 years, the Territory of American Samoa and NOAA’s National Ocean Service have been partners in planning for and managing development of the Territory under the National Coastal Zone Management Act. An essential ingredient in this partnership is the federal coastal zone management funding authorized by Congress that comes to American Samoa.

Governor Togiola also said a significant amount of the Territory’s annual grant is utilized to adopt land use plans and practices to meet development demands, protect and restore coastal natural resources, provide opportunities for employment, install adequate public services, and protect new development from natural hazards.

“I fully appreciate the tight fiscal constraints facing the nation and the difficult decisions associated with allocating limited financial resources. Given NOAA’s role as lead federal agency for our oceans and atmosphere, and our increasing appreciation and understanding of the human health, national security, and economic impacts associated with the oceanic and atmospheric processes, I firmly believe that maintaining funding for these NOAA programs is needed now,” said Governor Togiola.

**HISTORICAL NOTES**

By: Stan Sorensen, Historian, Office of the Governor

**On July 20, 1912**, American Samoa's Governor, Commander William Michael Crose, issued his "Regulation No. 4-1912: Importation of Animals," which forbade the importation of any animals, "excepting certified domestic animals," namely, "Horses, mules, donkeys, cattle, sheep, swine, goats, dogs, cats and poultry."

**On July 20, 1933**, George Egerton Leigh Westbrook, an English trader, journalist and *Mau* member in Western Samoa, reported that the New Zealand Administration's "Samoan Military Police," when marching through the villages of Vaimoso and Lepea (both of which were *Mau* strongholds), sang insulting songs in Samoan, and referred to the Samoans in degrading terms.

**On July 20, 1941**, 30 members of American Samoa's Fita Fita Guard were assigned to the U.S. Marine Corps' 7th Defense Battalion for training purposes.

**On July 20, 1942**, Sianava Robert Seva'aetasi, the first Samoan to enlist in the First Samoan Battalion, U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, became the first person promoted to Sergeant in that organization.

**On July 20, 2001**, the American Samoa Government, DELTA Consortium and PEACESAT dedicated the 7.2 Meter Hubsite Satellite Antenna at Tafuna, American Samoa. In his dedication speech, Lieutenant Governor Togiola T.A. Tulafono praised the hard work of DELTA and PEACESAT personnel in bringing the project to completion.

**On July 21, 1902**, President Theodore Roosevelt thanked the chiefs of "Tutuila, Aunu'u and other neighboring islands" for signing the Deed of Cession.

**On July 22, 1816**, the Society of Mary, whose members are called Marists, was founded in the basilica of the Cathedral of Our Lady of Fourvière, France. The Marist Order subsequently became the pioneer Catholic missionary order in Samoa.

**On July 22, 1936**, Western Samoan *Mau* leader Taisi Olaf Frederick Nelson, returning home from his final exile in New Zealand, sailed into Apia Harbor aboard SS *Mau'i Pomare*, and received a tumultuous welcome. The harbor was crowded with *faufasi*, and an estimated 15,000 people were on hand to greet him. Nelson was seen to be "visibly impressed and embarrassed" by the welcome.

**On July 22, 2003**, Paramount Chief Letuli Olo Misilagi of American Samoa passed away in Honolulu, Hawaii at the age of 84. In a general memorandum, Governor Togiola Tulafono wrote: "With mournful hearts, we face the passing of Paramount Chief Letuli, who exemplified love of life, and during his lifetime was a true ambassador for American Samoa, its culture and traditions. His contributions to the preservation of the arts and culture are without comparison....PC Letuli leaves a great and memorable legacy in the countless young people he trained in the arts throughout the years. His counseling of them to love and respect their arts and culture made him one of our most notable, noble and exemplary leaders. His service to family, church, village, county and Territory marks him as one of the true fathers of this country."

**On July 23, 1900**, U.S. Naval Station Commandant Benjamin F. Tilley issued his "Regulation No. 12-1900: Instructions Concerning Appointed Chiefs."

**On July 25, 1900**, the U.S. Post Office Department notified the Navy Department that the establishment of a post office at the U.S. Naval Station Tutuila had been authorized.

**On July 25, 1929**, American Samoa's Governor, Captain Stephen Victor Graham, established the Bank of American Samoa.

## Governor Togiola Tulafono hosts appreciation lunch for South Pacific Presbyterian Theological Seminary and LBJ Tropical Medical Mission team

**(UTULEI)** – Governor Togiola Tulafono hosted an appreciation lunch, on Tuesday, July 18<sup>th</sup>, for the doctors of the South Pacific Presbyterian Theological Seminary and LBJ Tropical Medical Mission team that are conducting health clinic on island.

Governor Togiola praised and expressed the appreciation of the people and government of American Samoa to the group of doctors and their families that traveled at their own expense to offer free consultations and screenings across the Territory.

At the luncheon, Governor Togiola presented the doctors with an American Samoa book as a proud souvenir of their visit to the Territory.

The following is the official statement and expression of gratitude from Governor Togiola:

"To Reverend Dr. Suh Jung Woon and Dr. Kim and the entire South Pacific Presbyterian Theological Seminary and LBJ Tropical Medical Mission team:

I wish to thank you for embracing the Christian and Samoan belief that it is better to give than to receive. Your service to our people in showing your love through words and actions is your greatest gift to this island place we call home. And I thank you and congratulate you for the wonderful work you continue to do for American Samoa.

I am proud of the association with your team of Good Samaritans and I want to acknowledge your magnificent efforts and your great contribution of service to your fellow man through the resources and specialization that you bring to our people. You have our utmost gratitude and abiding respect.

Your mission of love and mercy is a humanitarian project that is of enormous proportion and cost. I acknowledge the countless and boundless achievements of your service to the people of the Territory of American Samoa. Thank you for the passion to help through partnership with government, churches, organizations and individuals.

On behalf of the people and government, I thank you most sincerely for your medical mission. I truly believe that your work with our people has also brought great fulfillment to you personally as it has benefited our country greatly. And for this American Samoa thanks you. Thank God for South Pacific Presbyterian Theological Seminary and LBJ Tropical Medical Mission."

## Governor Togiola Tulafono responds to media queries on allegations against John Marsh

(UTULEI) – Governor Togiola Tulafono today responded to media queries regarding the allegations against Mr. John Marsh of ASPA.

The following is the official statement from Governor Togiola:

“I have received a set of documents from Mrs. Trudie Sala of Common Cause. I have seen the documents and I have sent it off to the Commissioner of Public Safety for investigation.

I have also received communication from the ASPA Board that they have begun their own internal investigation. I have asked the ASPA board to cooperate with the Department of Public Safety on this investigation.”

## Governor Togiola Tulafono comments on Manu’a District #1 Senate vacancy

(UTULEI) – Governor Togiola Tulafono today commented on vacant Senate seat for Manu’a District No. 1 as a result of the untimely death of Senator Ma’o Tima Jr.

The following is the official statement from Governor Togiola:

“Before calling for a special district election to fill the current vacancy or appointing someone to fill the current vacancy, I am waiting to consult with the District Governor and before I will make a determination on how to handle the appointment. I expect that will happen some time this week. My preference is that the district will meet and recommend to me someone to appoint to complete the rest of the term of the late Senator Ma’o Tima, Jr.

## Governor Togiola statement on ASPA Board hiring of new CEO Andra Samoa

(UTULEI) – Governor Togiola Tulafono issued this statement today regarding the American Samoa Power Authority Board hiring of new Chief Executive Officer – Ms. Andra Samoa.

The following is the official statement from Governor Togiola:

“I am relieved that the American Samoa Power Authority Board has finally made a decision on a Chief Executive Officer. I fully support the Board’s appointment of Ms. Andra Samoa as the new CEO. I wish to extend congratulations to the ASPA Board for their decision. I also offer congratulations to Ms. Andra Samoa on her new appointment. I am very confident that with a full-time CEO in place, things will continue to move forward and improve much faster at ASPA.”



Governor Togiola Tulafono (center) joined the American Samoa Football (Soccer) Association, Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) officials, Paramount Chief Mauga, other village chiefs of Pago Pago and members of the public on Thursday, July 13<sup>th</sup>, in breaking ground on Project Goal at Pago Pago Park.





**American Samoa  
Power Authority**

Human Resource Division, Satala  
PO Box PPB, Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799  
Phone: (684) 644-2772; Fax: (684) 644-5005/1337

### JOB POSTING

Division/ Department	Administration	Posting Date Deadline:	4:00 p.m. August 17, 2006
Position Title/Grade:	Legal Assistant	Compensation:	\$19,000 - \$28,000/annum
Reports To:	General Counsel	Position Type Status:	Contract Employee
Major Responsibilities	<p>Under the direct supervision of the General Counsel, the Legal Assistant will be required to perform complex legal, IT and administrative duties. The Legal Assistant will also be responsible for understanding legal concepts and thinking critically, being proactive, and problem-solving solutions to issues.</p> <p>Specifically, the Legal Assistant will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Provide administrative support to the General Counsel, including word processing, copying, faxing, scheduling appointments, answering the phone, taking messages, etc.</li> <li>2. Draft and edit correspondences and legal documents;</li> <li>3. Perform legal and non-legal research as assigned by the General Counsel, both in periodicals, databases, the law library, public records, and other offices, file documents with the court, and coordinate service of process;</li> <li>4. Conduct investigations/fact gathering under the supervision of the General Counsel;</li> <li>5. Create, maintain and regularly update computer database system for all legal documents, including scanning and uploading legal documents to central file server, and coordination with IT department; and</li> <li>6. Perform all other duties as assigned by General Counsel.</li> </ol>		
Education	Post-secondary education required. College degree desirable.		
Experience	Required: 2+ years experience in performing legal assistant work in a law office or similar location.		

### GET A FREE ASG EMAIL ADDRESS

ON: [amsamoa.gov.as](mailto:amsamoa.gov.as)

Email your name, department, current email address and the new email address you want to:  
[tapuitea@amsamoa.gov.as](mailto:tapuitea@amsamoa.gov.as)

### Share important activities

with our ASG workforce as well as the citizens of American Samoa.

**Email your articles, announcements, pictures or other information to:**

[tapuitea@amsamoa.gov.as](mailto:tapuitea@amsamoa.gov.as)

Deadline for submissions is Thursday @ noon.

contact Harry Stevens @733-1694

or

Vince Iuli @ 733-1041

### ASG RADIO PROGRAM

With:

**Governor Togiola  
Tulafono**

**Saturdays @ 7a.m.**

On:

**Showers of Blessings-  
FM 104.7**

**Call 699-8123 or 699-8124**

*"Many times a day I realize how my outer and inner life is built upon the labors of my fellow men, both living and dead, and how earnestly I must exert myself in return to give as much as I*